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Welcome to California

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Who Are We?

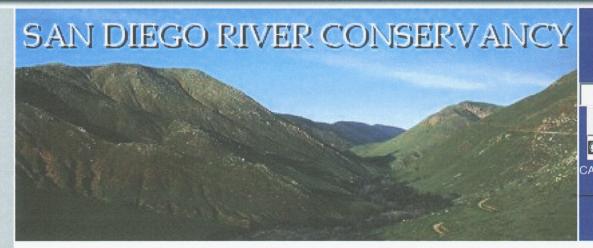
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1350 Front St. Suite 3024 San Diego, CA 92101

Who Are We?

The San Diego River Conservancy was established by an act of the California Legislature (AB 2156, Kehoe) to preserve, restore and enhance the San Diego River Area. The Conservancy is a new, independent, nonregulatory agency within the Resources Agency of the State of California. The Conservancy's nine-member Governing Board consists of both state and local representatives, creating a partnership which reflects the diversity and dedication to conserving this highly valued resource of statewide significance.

What Do We Do?

Our mission, the restoration and conservation of the San Diego River Area, is accomplished by (1) acquiring, managing and conserving land; and (2) protecting or providing recreational opportunities, open space, wildlife species and habitat, wetlands, water quality, natural flood conveyance, historical / cultural resources, and educational opportunities. One important Conservancy goal is to build, in conjunction with our partners, a Riverlong park and hiking trail stretching fifty-two miles from the River's headwaters near Julian to the Pacific Ocean. This is accomplished with willing sellers using a cooperative / consensus approach.

Why the San Diego River?

The San Diego River area is an historical, archeological and biological treasure of statewide significance. The San Diego River area is the "Birthplace of California" and holds the key to the State's heritage. With human inhabitants for over 8,000 years, the San Diego River Area boasts no less than twenty-nine State Historic Landmarks, three state parks and rich archeological resources.

Today, the San Diego River Watershed is home to over one-half million people, including five Native American

tribes, and at least twenty-five state and federally listed endangered and threatened plant and animal species.

The San Diego River is also of significant economic value to the state. In 2003 alone, the San Diego River Conservancy area welcomed over twenty-six million visitors, helping to support an annual tourism industry in San Diego of over five billion dollars.

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